

ALLOWANCE

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview between William D. Bauer and Frances P. Oropeza on 5/5/10.

The Application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 9, "on the" has been deleted and --exterior to the-- has been inserted.

In claim 21, line 8, "on the" has been deleted and --exterior to the-- has been inserted.

In claim 21, line 9, "operationally coupled to recharge" has been removed and --electrically coupled through the housing electrical feedthrough to the electronics and--.

In the amended first paragraph of the specification filed 4/4/07 titled "CROSS REFERENCES", the following new first sentence has been inserted: --This patent application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/596,566, filed June 12, 2000, now abandoned.--

Reasons for Allowance

2. Claims 1-21 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The subject matter of the independent claims could either not be found or was not suggested in the prior art. The subject matter not found was an implantable medical device comprising an electrical feed through, and a recharging coil having a major plane and being

centrally located and substantially carried external to the proximal face of the housing and electrically coupled through the housing electrical feed-through to the electronics and rechargeable power source , in combination with the other elements of the claims.

U.S. Patent No. 6,067,474 to Schulman et al. discloses the instant invention except:

- In figures 14A and 14B, electrically coupling through the housing electrical feed-through the recharging coil with the electronics and the rechargeable power source,
- In figures 15A and 15B, a recharging coil being centrally located and substantially carried external to the proximal face of the housing,
- In figure 16, an electrical feed-through, and electrically coupling through the housing electrical feed-through the recharging coil with the electronics and the rechargeable power source.

U.S. Patent No. 5,279,292 to Baumann et al. discloses the instant invention except in figure 2 and 4, the an electrical feed through, and a recharging coil having a major plane and being centrally located and substantially carried external to the proximal face of the housing and electrically coupled through the housing electrical feed-through to the electronics and rechargeable power source.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

3. The drawings submitted February 5, 2004 are to be published in the patent.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fran Oropeza whose telephone number is (571) 272-4953. Fran's schedule is Monday and Tuesday 9AM-7PM EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl H. Layno can be reached on (571) 272-4949. Carl's schedule is Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9AM-5 PM EST; Tuesday, Thursday 9AM-3PM and 9PM-11PM EST. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300 for regular communication and for After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Frances P. Oropeza/
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May 5, 2010

/Carl H. Layno/
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